

The Free Lance

FREDERICKSBURG, VA.
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
ONLY TRI-WEEKLY IN VIRGINIA

TRANSIENT RATES.
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Subscription \$1.50 Per Year, in Advance
Entered at the postoffice at Fredericksburg, Va., as second-class mail matter.
THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1911.

UNDESIRABLE ALLIES

The Baltimore Sun in a strong editorial advises the Democrats in the Senate to beware of the Greeks bearing gifts in the shape of the Republican insurgents and strongly urges upon the minority the necessity of insisting on the passage of the reciprocity bill as it passed the House. In other words, The Sun says they are after all Republicans, and therefore welded to the doctrine of protection and this is well illustrated by their opposition to the Canadian treaty. If they are able to defeat the latter they will pursue a completely independent course in the tariff schedules and nothing will be accomplished by the extra session.

Soon the ponderous form of Ollie James will occupy one of the seats in the Senate reserved for the Senators from Kentucky and his sonorous voice will be heard resounding through the chamber. Senator Paynter, who in a moment of indiscretion voted for Lorimer, seeing the handwriting on the wall, has retired from the contest, leaving the field clear for Ollie. If the latter can break away from his ardent admiration for Mr. Bryan, he ought to make a good senator.

DEFEAT OF THE ROOT AMENDMENT

The action of the Senate in defeating the Root amendment to the Canadian reciprocity pact by such an overwhelming majority presages the ultimate passage of the agreement in its present form, that is without amendment. Though the insurgent Republicans have given no notice that they will offer amendments providing for free lumber, free wool, etc., none of these will be adopted, since the Democrats realize that their purpose is solely to defeat the reciprocity bill and thereby embarrass the president. The agreement once passed, the Democrats in the Senate will soon enough force a vote on the tariff bills, which have already passed the House and both the insurgent and regular Republicans will then have an opportunity of voting in compliance with the mandate of the American people, given at the polls, last November. The Democrats in the Senate appear to be in good shape, splendidly organized and desirous of making a record equal to that of their brethren in the House. If they continue to pursue this course the country will reap commendations on their heads.

The Virginia senatorial campaign seems to be becoming.

Lorimer may die, but he evidently has no idea of resigning.

DEPOSITORS SUMMONED TO COURT

Depositors in the Livingston, Va., branch of the Virginia Life Deposit Trust Corporation, who were allowed to withdraw their deposits after the cashier of that branch, it is alleged, knew that the corporation had been placed in the hands of receivers, and who have not returned the money so withdrawn, must appear in the Alexandria corporation court on July 10 to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt. A rule against all such depositors was issued by Clerk Greenaway of Alexandria, by direction of Judge Bailey.

\$57,000 FIRE AT SUFFOLK

The Suffolk Knitting Mills were destroyed by fire Tuesday evening with entire stock and machinery, involving a loss of \$57,000. The blaze started in an old dyeing room and burned with such fury that firemen were forced to work at the flames above the eye level of the workers. Within a few weeks Suffolk has had three factory fires, with an aggregate loss of \$50,000.

LIGHTNING KILLED

VALUABLE CATTLE

In a terrible electric storm in Rappahannock county, near Laurel Mill, Saturday afternoon W. H. Masie lost twelve head of large yearling cattle that were struck by a bolt of lightning. There were six head in the lot at the time.

GIRL IMPALED ON PITFORK

While riding on a wheat wagon with her father and a girl playing in Rockingham county, Tuesday, 12-year-old Nell fell from her seat and was impaled on a pitchfork which she had been carrying. One of the tines entered her chest above the eye ball and was driven 6 inches into her brain.

PHYSICIAN A SUICIDE

Dr. G. M. Nickel, a practicing physician of Millboro, Allegany county, committed suicide Tuesday by shooting himself during a fit of despondence. Dr. Nickel was 60 years old and leaves a wife and three daughters.

For up-to-date, neat stationery send your orders to The Free Lance.

CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Ford Accepts—Annual Reports Received.

THE NEW ALMS HOUSE QUESTION

City Water Works and Gas Plant Good

Source of Revenue—Proposed Franchise Rejected—Invitation Accepted, Etc., Etc.

The City Council met in adjourned meeting Monday night with every member present except Mr. Howard. President Bradley announced the receipt of last meeting and had qualified before Clerk Eastburn on Monday. The President welcomed Mr. Ford to the body and assigned him chairman of Health and Police committee, 2nd and 3rd on 3rd and 5th Fire Department.

Mr. Lane, of Finance, presented check for \$18 received from auditor of Virginia, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street.

Mr. Lane also presented bill of City Attorney St. George, for legal services during year just closing, amounting to \$500. In this bill was included counsel fee in Allison case. On motion of Mr. Young the bill was ordered paid.

Mr. Lane said the Finance Committee recommended the appropriation of \$1,000 additional to the public school fund, which matter was referred to said committee at last meeting. On motion of Mr. Young the appropriation was made.

PUBLIC PROPERTY REPORT

Mr. Bradley, of Public Property, submitted his report for year showing expenditures, \$2,636.44, appropriation \$3,500, leaving an unexpended balance of \$863.56, which goes back into treasury.

The report also shows the improvement of the Free Bridge during the year, and stated the city's property in good condition, with the exception of the little improvements necessary at the courthouse. On motion of Mr. Rowe the report was received and filed.

REPORT OF STREET COMMITTEE

Mr. Embrey, of Streets, submitted his report, showing the maintenance of \$5,000 for regular work. The bulk of this amount was for permanent work which will last for years and consists of a complete reconstruction of bridge with side walls below level of canal, and with hand and guard rails, over the canal across Hanover street.

A bridge over the canal at Commerce street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street.

These bridges are complete as far as they have gone, and serve every purpose for traffic, but the slabs have not been put on over the sidewalks and guard rails have not been put up because the side lines of these streets have not been permanently fixed.

Other money of this \$5,000 has been expended in repairing the streets and sidewalks where permanent sidewalks and curbs have been laid, and still other money of this \$5,000 has been expended in taking up wooden bridges in need of repairs and substituting in place thereof of terra cotta pipes or other permanent constructions.

Two hundred dollars has been appropriated for work necessary at postoffice corner. Of this sum \$1,085.15 has been spent and there still unpaid outstanding bills and bills for material. The committee is unable to give the total cost of this work which will be completed in two weeks. On motion of Mr. Young the report was received and filed.

Mr. Embrey presented a plot of a grade proposed on Factory street, by order of the Board of Public Works, to build a bridge. The company is willing to put back the street, without cost to city, on a grade as submitted and which makes improvement of the street and the proposed change was allowed.

Mr. Embrey presented a map for a grade on the side of Washington street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street, and bridge over canal at Wolfe street.

Mr. Embrey presented a bill of Willcox and Reed for \$7.50 for the survey of Marye and Guest streets leading to Normal School through Bradley property. This bill was withdrawn until regular session.

ELECTRIC LIGHT REPORT

Mr. Young, of Light, presented report of Superintendent W. K. Howard, of electric light plant. The report was comprehensive, showing expenses \$2,914.76. Repair \$270.57. Improvement \$65.68. Total \$3,251.01.

Average expense per month \$242.50. Repair \$22.50. Improvement \$5.47. Total \$270.52. Amount of appropriation, \$4,200.00. Stock, poles, wire, carbons, etc., 112.13. Paid treasurer for work, 29.50.

Total expenses, 4,322.63. Total income, 3,251.01.

Net amount saved from appropriation, \$1,081.62.

Report received and ordered filed on motion of Mr. Somerville.

GAS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Mr. Young submitted report of Gas Committee which had been prepared by Superintendent B. F. Bullock and read by him.

It shows total amount of gas made, 18,155,000 cubic feet. Gas sold 16,000,000 cubic feet. Used at works 2,000,000 cubic feet. Total 18,155,000 cubic feet. Loss 1,865,200 cubic feet. Coal used during year 3,866,000 pounds. Balance on hand June 1, 1911, 850,000 pounds.

Meters in use June 1, 1911, 791. Meters in use June 1, 1910, 675. Gain for year, 116.

Cost of operation, \$12,055.27. New work and expenses not chargeable to operation, 967.78. Total, \$12,923.05.

Appropriation for year, 13,000.00. Unexpended balance, \$7.95. Receipts, 15,649.04. Bills on hand, 241.32.

Cash received, 15,649.04. Cash and coke and tar, 22,247.47. Bills on hand, 47.35. Cash and coke and tar, 85.00. Total, \$2,379.82.

Welsbach lights 900,000 lbs. is invested, and aggregate payroll is about \$1,600,000. They employ fifty-six steamers and about 2,000 men.

READY TO PAY STATE INTEREST

The State is ready to pay the semi-annual interest on the State debt, due Saturday. Second Auditor John H. New has his check ready on the registered bonds interest, and the money is in hand to pay the entire amount, approximately close to \$420,000.

TOBACCO PLANTED LATE

From advices received, J. J. Owen, of the Department of Agriculture, is satisfied that his estimate of 25 per cent loss in the tobacco crop this year was a little conservative. A good many farmers place the decrease in the amount of tobacco acreage at a good deal more. It is usually supposed that all tobacco should be in the ground by June 10.

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Other Items.

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We can only at this time and look over our once promising returns for our hard labor and now realizing that in so short a time it was partly a total loss. It behooves us to remember that such is life, here today and gone tomorrow, and knowing it is the work of God we should not murmur. If our old friends, the neighbors, would only drop in for a few hours friendly chat it would take our minds off present failure and direct them to the future. Hoping to feel more cheerful when I write the next time.

Bill. Washington, June 28.—Quickly following up the defeat of the Root amendment to the Canadian reciprocity bill, Senator Penrose sought to have the senate fix a date for taking a vote on the measure itself.

Mr. Penrose, who, as chairman of the committee on finance, is chief defender of the president's Canadian pact, asked that the senate agree to vote on the bill July 24. The attempt was defeated through Senator La Follette's objection.

After refusing to permit such an arrangement, the opponents of the reciprocity bill allowed that measure to advance one important parliamentary step, but they realized that what had happened. For a quarter of an hour the senate was in executive session. At its conclusion, no one being ready to speak on the measure, and following the parliamentary custom of that body, Vice President Sherman announced that it was the duty of the committee of the whole to take the senate to the measure.

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At first Senator Penrose objected to having the measure reintroduced in the committee of the whole. He said the senate had shown no disposition to hurry in its consideration of the bill, and had rejected his proposal for a definite time for a vote on the measure. He therefore thought no backward step should be taken.

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Miss Beulah Lynn, of this neighborhood, is attending the Summer Institute in your city. She expects to teach the coming session. She is an intelligent young lady and a very capable teacher.

The dry spell hit this section hard but it will survive and yet blossom as the rose.

The Stafford Stars, the champion baseball club in this portion of the State, will cross bats in your city in the near future with some very strong teams.

NO VOTE FOR VOTE

Effort Fails to Have Reciprocity Decided July 24.

MEMBERS CAUGHT NAPPING

Tangle in the Senate Results in the Canadian Measure Going Back to the Committee of the Whole.

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